

MEMORANDUM TO: The Director of Central Intelligence  
SUBJECT: National Science Foundation

1.

a. The attention of the Director is invited to H.R. Bill 6648, providing for the establishment of the National Science Foundation as an independent Government agency. It is suggested that the Director may wish to call this bill to the attention of the I.A.R. for indorsement by the N.I.A.

b. The H.R. Bill 6648 has full indorsement of the Office of Scientific Research and Development, which would be absorbed by the Foundation under the terms of the bill.

c. A bill for the same purpose has been introduced in the Senate (S. 1850) but the structure and operation of the Foundation proposed in the Senate bill render the Foundation susceptible to being used for political patronage.

2. The proposed National Science Foundation will provide a focal center whereby C.I.G. can have access to scientific research activities of importance for foreign intelligence, and will also provide a means for presenting requests to private organizations to undertake research in scientific fields (including the social sciences). Undoubtedly, C.I.G. would want to maintain close liaison to the Foundation.

3. The attached chart indicates the proposed organization. The proposed Foundation is to provide for the support of American scientific research and development by means of financial grants and contracts to private and Federal research organizations and individuals, to initiate

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and correlate scientific research and development programs undertaken by public and private research groups to foster national and international exchange of scientific information, and to develop and promote a national policy for scientific research and scientific education.

k. The main provisions of H.R. 6448 are summarized as follows:

a. A Board of nine members appointed by the President with consent of the Senate for a term of four years, determines the policies and organization of the Foundation. A Director recommended by the Board is appointed by the President with consent of the Senate. The Director may appoint two Deputy Directors.

b. Provision is made for five divisions initially and three additional divisions may be created by the Board as it deems to be appropriate. Each division, except the National Defense Division, has a directing committee of at least five members recommended by the National Academy of Sciences. The National Defense Division is to have up to forty committee members, half of whom shall be civilians, the remaining half to be equally divided between the War and Navy Departments. Chairmen of division committees (elected by the committees) are also members of the Board.

c. The Foundation is authorized to award scholarships and fellowships for scientific study or work in any field of science at nonprofit institutions of higher learning in the United States or foreign countries. A central register of scientific and technical personnel is to be maintained. Research contracts with individuals or organizations entered into by the Foundation are to provide for control

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of patents in accordance with the dictates of national security. At least fifteen percent of the appropriated funds must be spent on research and developments related to the national defense. The Foundation, with the consent of the President and through the Department of State, may cooperate in international research.

d. The bill does not carry an appropriation, but \$100,000,000 has been suggested as a possible appropriation for the first year.

5. The bill is expected to reach the House floor for consideration in the near future.

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Captain, USN  
Acting Chief, Central Planning Staff

Enclosure: H.R. 6448

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